



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Introduction to *Preserve America* Initiative

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National Marine Sanctuaries

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What is *Preserve America*?

"Preserve America is a White House initiative... to protect and restore our nation's cultural and natural resources—from mountains and buildings to landscapes and main streets." — First Lady Laura Bush



- New White House initiative
- First announced by the First Lady March 3, 2003

Preserve America goals

- Promote the benefits of preservation
- Foster the recognition of historic properties as assets with economic as well as intrinsic value
- Encourage public-private partnership
- Improve federal stewardship
- Support preservation and economic development through heritage tourism

NOAA and Preserve America

- Oldest scientific agency in the United States
- A wealth of resources
- Maps, charts, photographs, books, scientific instruments, and other artifacts
- Large-scale historic and cultural resources, such as buildings and shipwrecks



NOAA Fisheries' Galveston Laboratory

- The Galveston Lab established in 1929 and maintains its operations at the historic site of Old Fort Crockett.
- Supports the science of fisheries management
- Conservation of coastal habitats and protection of threatened species in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Focuses on U. S. shrimp fishery
- Emphasis on restoration of the nation's coastal wetlands located in Texas and Louisiana

Best known for work with live sea turtles, where thousands of people visit each year to see and hear about sea turtle issues.



Connecting the Public to the Past through Partnerships

- state, tribal and local governments
- coastal managers, fishermen and commercial maritime companies
- academic institutions
- non profit organizations

An extensive network of partners that can engage individuals to visit, experience, and use our heritage resources.

Furthering knowledge of maritime life and traditions through:

- Research reserve visitor centers
- Education and outreach programs
- Waterfront interpretive trails
- Shipwreck Trails
- Exhibits
- Curricula
- Special Events – Community fairs, festivals, and lectures

Promoting Coastal Awareness

Elevating coastal awareness through engaging a different segment of the public by promoting the Nation's maritime heritage that exists within our coastal communities.

How?

- history – it's interesting, it's personal

- mystery – lore of the sea

- discovery

- preservation

Portland

History

- Sank during storm in Nov. 1898 enroute between Boston and Portland.
- All passengers and crew lost.

Discovery

- Positively identified 2002 in SBNMS by joint NOAA NMSP/NURC expedition
- Steam machinery and hull in good state of preservation.

Significance

- Historical event had significance to region's social history.
- Discovery gives rest to enduring question, peace of mind to descendants of victims.
- Resulted in changes to coastal passenger trade passenger manifest logs.

Preserve America Communities

Designation recognizes communities that:

- Protect and celebrate their heritage
- Use their historic assets for economic development and community revitalization
- Encourage people to experience and appreciate local historic resources through education and heritage tourism programs.

Among the first communities to be designated:

- Castroville, Texas
- Key West, Florida

What does designation mean?

- Eligibility for *Preserve America* grant funding - \$10 million in grants proposed in President's FY 2005 budget
- Possible preferential consideration for:
 - Save America's Treasures grants
 - Funding opportunities within other existing Federal funding programs

What does it mean to you?

- Highlight maritime heritage in coastal communities
- Promote cultural and coastal resources through a unique and intriguing medium
- NOAA assistance in identifying and nominating coastal communities and heritage activities
- Technical assistance from NOAA in discovery, archiving and recording.

How are we going to get there?

Our Approach:

- NOAA Working Group

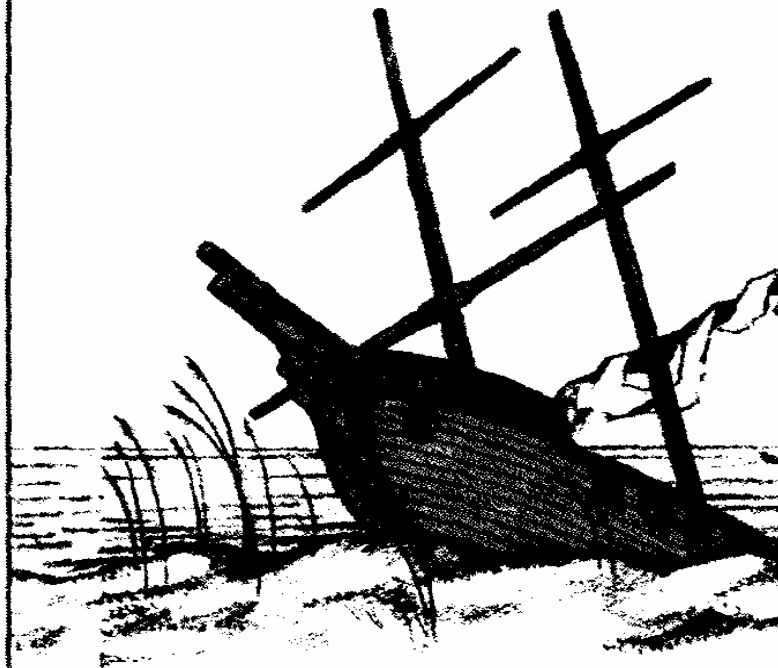
Task Teams:

- Inventory
- Educational Opportunities
- Vision/ Marketing

How to make it happen:

- Web page
- Partnerships – coastal states, research reserves, aquaria
- Project ideas – employing education, facilities, artifacts

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